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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hiroshi OGAWA et al.
Serial No. : 09/386,993
Filed : August 31, 1999
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
DIGITAL WATERMARKING

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MAY 06 2003

Technology Center 2600

Art Unit : 2625

Examiner : Barry Choobin

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Date 4/28/2003 Atty's Reg. # 33,865

Atty's Signature AARON C. DEDITCH

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 27, 2003 (the three-month response date for which is April 28, 2003 (since April 27, 2003 is a Sunday)), please reconsider the above-identified application based on the following:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Without prejudice, please cancel claims 25, 34, 43 and 52, and please amend/replace the claims as follows:

A1 1. 26. (Amended) A method for reading digital watermark data embedded in digital data contents, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving said digital data contents;

determining threshold α of reliability of digital watermark data which is read;

obtaining a binary distribution function $F(x)$ which represents a probability that a number x of '1' bits or '0' bits are included in a bit sequence which is read at random from digital data contents, said binary distribution function $F(x)$ being obtained by using a probability q of reading '1' or '0' in said bit sequence and a repeating number of embedding each bit of digital watermark data;

reading an i th digital watermark sequence of said digital watermark data from a digital